

## **Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body**

Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE – Governor's Forest Health Council**

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

**October 8, 2009  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Prescott Fire Center  
2400 Melville Road  
Prescott, AZ 86301**

### **Minutes**

---

**Meeting Objective:** To receive an update by State Forestry on which projects were chosen for the Supplemental Fuels funding, receive a presentation on the current status of the statewide assessment, receive an update on ARRA-funded projects in Arizona, receive a presentation on the Apache Co. CWPP thinning project, receive an update and have a discussion on the Four Forests Restoration Initiative, further discuss the progress of the Scorecard and the potential progress report, discuss a landscape-by-landscape survey/tour of ongoing restoration initiatives, and identify agenda items for November FHC meeting.

**1) Call to Order | Welcome ~Co-Chair Molly P.**

Don B., Mark B. for Mayor Pressler, Brenda B., Victoria C., Wally C., Steve G., Tom K., Molly P., Steve R., Larry S. for Mark Herrington, Darrell W., Ron W.

>Molly opened with a special welcome to Alan Quan, Prescott National Forest Supervisor

>Advised Co-Chair Ethan A. is at a Bio-Energy Conference and will not be in attendance

**2) Approval of the Minutes from the September FHC Meeting ~ Approved**

- a. Vicki C. provided Krista O. some clarification & wording changes for the September notes regarding Supplemental Fuels Funding and ARRA.
- b. Add Larry S. to "Call to Order" section for September notes
- c. Krista O. made changes and they are posted correctly on website. If anyone would like revised copy, please advise Krista O.

**3) State Forestry Division Update ~ Vicki Christiansen and Glen Buettner**

- Supplemental Fuels & ARRA Funding
  - No real update from last meeting
  - Final allocations of ARRA Funding | details being worked out
    - Show Low- \$112,000
    - Groom Creek- \$275,000
    - Government Canyon- \$449,000
  - A new allocation for ARRA funding has been identified
    - Apache ecosystem restoration
      - Game & Fish to administer
      - Covers both Private & State lands
      - Project description being developed

- Assessment Project Status ~ Steve Gatewood

- Vicki C. noted that Sustainable Maintenance is a very important question/issue to FHC.
- Need to think more strategically when sending projects up for funding
- Assessment should be finished for next year's road map

State Assessment- cross forest & between forest types—this assessment will be comprehensive unlike FFRI which is mostly limited to Ponderosa Pine.

- West Wide Wildfire Risk Assessment (WWA) Project Overview & Handout

- Four Deliverables
  - A Comprehensive Wildfire Database
  - Conducting the Wildfire Risk Assessment
  - Final Report- Methods, Findings and Using the Assessment Products
  - Technology Transfer
- 17 partner states and Pacific Islands
- Vicki C. is State Forester Representative on Steering Committee
- Fire Risk Model is from Sanborn Map Company
- Southern states have undergone this assessment, adopted findings, and benefited in some of the following areas:
  - Allocating critical fuel monies
  - Fire response based on level of risk/ cost analysis
- Will be helpful at showing needs at Congressional & Federal level
- *Question from Molly P.:* Do we need a working group to assist team with feedback?
  - *Response:* Not at this time, possible when historical data is needed. This is more of a modeling exercise and is complementary to the statewide assessment.

### 3) Drake Project Update ~ Richard. A. Van Demark

- i. Joint venture formed between Drake Cement & Drake Biomass Forest Energy (responsible for wood biomass)
- ii. Forming procurement company to serve Drake Biomass
- iii. Development work using ARRA monies to determine best way to get water out of wood
- iv. Working with Federal Tribal, Private, Municipalities on fiber disposal- again all species
- v. Question: Co-gen yet?
  1. Current model does not include but they do have capability
- vi. Volume Scale
  1. 40 loads per day
  2. 10,000 acres per year
  3. If replaced all coal this would double
- vii. This is a scalable project based on best practices
- viii. Drake cement wants to become a bio mass operating plant not coal
- ix. ARRA Funding to: Drake Procurement Biomass
  1. Biomass to thermal underway
  2. Jobs creation
    - a. Want long term employment & contract
  3. Process is: Harvest, Cut, Forward, Breakdown, Dry, Transport, Material Handling
- x. Gyroscopic Mill- Uses less energy, better drying capability
  1. Would like to retrofit a facility to showcase this "technology"
- xi. Richard V. will provide a 'white paper' for distribution to the Council on the Drake Project

**4) Presentation on Apache County CWPP Thinning Project ~ Molly Pitts**

- i. Molly discussed the grant they put in place for the thinning project in Apache County, including different strategies to gain community support and get buy-in
- ii. 90/10 approval has made it easier to sell the program--have had positive results to date in participation due to increased funding and reach-out to community.
- iii. Drafted a maintenance agreement to extend the life of this project
- iv. Large land owners have made the difference
- v. Nutriosio Focus

**4) Update on ARRA-funded projects in Arizona ~ Tom Klabunde**

- a. Monitor website at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov) to track announcements & awards
- b. Categorized by state
- c. Tom is available to the Council for any questions

**5) Update regarding the Four Forests Restoration Initiative ~ Bruce & Brenda**

- a. Gave direction for landscape approach
- b. Questions for supervisors is planned for 10/16
- c. Work groups 'on hold' pending info sharing
- d. Communication group working on external communications including a website
- e. Draft of memorandum created
- f. 3<sup>rd</sup> party facilitator was hired, Forest Service has invested @\$100k itself
  - i. Mike Hughes
- g. FLRA
  - i. Brenda
    - 1. Congressman Pastor agreed to fight for \$10million and possible full funding FY'11 with support.

**6) Update on progress of Statewide Strategy Scorecard and Progress Report ~ Steve Gatewood and Molly Pitts**

- a. No update, focus is on assessment currently
- b. Vicki C. did note that Council needs to know big picture to look for opportunities. When schedule is made for future meetings we should try to focus on each of the (9) landscapes. Find out what help/support Council can provide. Idea was to have briefs from each of the key landscapes- FHC could develop question to provide to presenter prior to presentation, so it is focused and productive. Focusing on:
  - i. Priorities
  - ii. Gaps
  - iii. Successes
  - iv. Challenges
- c. Statewide Strategy is a "Living Document"
- d. Table this as an agenda item until January 2010

**7) November Agenda ~ Group**

- a. Statewide Strategy
- b. Landscape Approach
- c. FLRA Presentation
- d. Short Update on Statewide Assessment
- e. Forest Plan revision process
- f. FFRI
- g. WGA Report from Boise that Ethan & Molly will attend 10/21-10/23
- h. Presentation from Corbin if possible- if available, FHC will provide topics prior to meeting, ideas:
  - i. FLRA
  - ii. Strategic dialogue –What FHC can do to move Forest Service actions along in-line with Arizona?

**8) Meeting Schedule and Locations**

- a. Discussed 1<sup>st</sup> Q calendar 2010 meeting locations
  - o January- Tucson
  - o February-Phoenix- Regional Tribal Representative to attend if possible
  - o March- Off
  - o April- White Mountains
  - o Proposed locations to be revisited at November meeting

**9) Call to the Public~ No comments**

*This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.*

*Dated this October 23, 2009*  
*Governor's Forest Health Council*  
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

---

**CO-CHAIRS**

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust  
Molly Pitts – Northern Arizona Wood Products Association